

**NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL**

**SAFER, GREENER & CLEANER SPACES  
CABINET MEMBER**

**SAFE AND SOUND HOME ASSISTANCE**

**1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT**

- 1.1 This report outlines the Safe and Sound Home Assistance and the options available for its delivery.
- 1.2 It seeks approval for the Home Assistance Policy to be amended to include the Safe and Sound element.

**2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 2.1 At the meeting of Full Council 1 March 2018, the capital programme was approved, including £100k allocated for the delivery of Safe and Sound Home Assistance. The grant will be available for the installation of window locks, additional door locks and other security measures and will be targeted at older residents to help them feel safer at home.
- 2.2 The Handyman Service is part of the Home Assistance Team to carry out minor adaptations and target hardening work, including the installation of window locks and additional chains and door locks. The Handyman Service will assist in carrying out work under the Safe and Sound Home Assistance scheme.
- 2.3 All financial assistance currently available to home owners to help maintain, adapt or improve their homes, is contained within the Home Assistance Policy. This policy will be updated to incorporate the Safe and Sound scheme.
- 2.4 The details of the proposed Safe and Sound scheme are contained at Appendix 1, including the eligibility criteria, conditions and the amount of assistance available.

**3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION**

- 3.1 Option one – To approve the criteria within Appendix 1 and incorporate into the Home Assistance Policy.
- 3.2 Option two – Do not accept the criteria within Appendix 1 and either revise the criteria further or cease the scheme.

#### **4. ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS**

- 4.1 Option one – this is the preferred option as it provides a mechanism for implementing the new scheme within existing frameworks. Delivery can commence as soon as the criteria has been approved and published in the Home Assistance Policy.
- 4.2 Option two – this will delay or cease the delivery of the scheme.

#### **5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCIAL, STAFFING, PROPERTY, IT)**

- 5.1 The Safe and Sound assistance scheme will be delivered as part of the wider financial assistance offered through the Home Assistance Policy and delivered by the Handyman Service.
- 5.2 The Handyman Service already installs home safety measures through its target hardening work.

#### **6. OUTCOME OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT (IF APPLICABLE)**

- 6.1 As this is a minor amendment to the Home Assistance Policy an IIP is not required.

#### **7. OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION AND CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS DECLARED**

- 7.1 Relevant officers across the council have been consulted in respect of the scheme.
- 7.2 No conflicts declared.

#### **8. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 8.1 That the Cabinet Member approves the criteria for the Safe and Sound Home Assistance as set out in Appendix 1 to this report for inclusion within the updated Home Assistance Policy.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: COMMERCIAL

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**Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:** None

## APPENDIX 1

### Safe and Sound Assistance

The aim of this assistance is to help minimise the fear of crime for residents in the Borough of North Lincolnshire. The Council will provide financial assistance to install certain home security measures in the homes of older owner occupiers.

A range of measures are available but include, door chains, door viewers, window alarms and locks.

The grant can only be approved if a valid application is received from the home owner, including proof of the following –

- Ownership of the applicant property (including proof of occupying the property as their own or main residence for the last twelve (12) months);
- First come, first served.

The maximum value of the assistance will be £250 which is not repayable and limited to one (1) application per household. The Safe and Sound assistance is discretionary and is available for applications received during the financial year 1st April 2018 to 31 March 2019.

Safe and Sound Assistance		
Eligibility Criteria	Conditions	Amount
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Owner occupier, who has occupied their home as their only or main residence for which they are applying for the grant, for at least 12 months.</li><li>• Aged 70+ years</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The measures will be installed by the Council's handyman service following receipt of a valid application and formal approval by the Council.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Maximum value of any assistance given is £250 which is not repayable and with a limit of 1 application per household.</li></ul>